

Other clay artifacts include clay pipes which were used to hold smoking material. They were typically produced from the same native clay used for pottery, but other types include "terra cotta" pipes, produced from a finer clay, and a few "white clay" pipes, which range in color from white to gray. These also exhibit different shapes and surface decorations. Most common are the "onion pipes" which were created by expanding one end of a tubular stem to create a bulb-shape.

The creativity of the Sauras is also displayed in their beadwork. Prior to the introduction of their glass counterparts, beads were frequently crafted from seashells. A combination of cutting, drilling, and smoothing produced beads that could be strung and worn around the neck, or as ear ornaments. Spherical "wampum" beads, which some Native American tribes used as a form of currency, were produced from polished shells and strung in strands. In addition to beads, disc-shaped pendants called gorgets, which were probably worn around the neck on a string are encountered at one excavation site. Two of these displayed a rattlesnake motif.

After the establishment of new trade routes into Saura territory, numerous glass trading beads of European origin begin to show up in a range of colors at excavation sites. These were sometimes sewn onto garments to produce geometric patterns. One such example of this skill was documented at the Stokes County burial site of a Saura woman. The complex beadwork on her gown was reproduced by the North Carolina Museum of History and later put on display in a life-size replica of the Saura woman and her garments. Besides beadwork, her deerskin garment was decorated with shells, brass bells, and brass triangles.

In addition to creative talents, the Saura also incorporated survival skills into their daily routine. Hunting, along with the production and preparation of food were just some of the endeavors which likely dictated a sequence of activities that changed along with the seasons. Considering the fertility of the surrounding flood plains and the abundance of wild game available, the Sauras enjoyed a rich and varied diet as substantiated at excavation sites by the discovery of a wide assortment of plant and animal remains.

A large number of skeletal remains from the Eastern Whitetail Deer implies that the Sauras were successful hunters. Hunting expeditions probably reached a peak during the winter months, and not only provided meat for the Saura diet, but hides and fur which could be used to provide warmth and shelter. Other wild game remains include squirrel, opossum, bear, and beaver. Turkey remains are commonly encountered as well, particularly males, which were possibly preferred for their larger size and showy tail feathers.

In the spring and summer, attention most likely shifted to the resources provided by the Dan River. Aquatic turtles supplied additional protein, along with freshwater mussels. The wide assortment of fish provided by the river allowed the Sauras to set their nets for bass and brim, along with shad, redhorse, white sucker, gar, catfish, and bowfin. Remains of the freshwater eel, considered a delicacy by today's standards, are also present at village sites.

It is clear that agriculture also played an essential role in maintaining the Saura diet. In